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LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1964



LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1964, furnished in accordance with Article 15(4) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/65 of the Ministry of Health.

During the year the Additional Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. H.A. Lett resigned to take another appointment. Later in the year Mr. E.E. Jordan, who held office as Public Health Inspector and Surveyor for many years, was obliged to resign for reasons of health.

These vacancies were filled by the appointment jointly with the Ledbury Urban District Council of Mr. D.R. Howe as Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, and Mr. M.E. Sutton as Assistant Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. I am glad to say that these staff changes were achieved without significant disturbance in the work of the Department.

The number of live births during 1964 was greater than in the previous year, and there were fewer deaths. The incidence of infectious disease was lower.

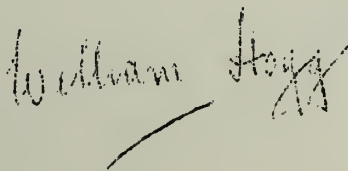
The Report contains no special comment which I wish to place before the Council, but gives a summary of the work of the department during the year.

I acknowledge assistance given me in the preparation of this Report by Mr. D.B.W. Dykes, Clerk to the Council; Mr. A.T. Thomas, Financial Officer; the Public Health Inspector; Mr. Austin and Mr. Penhale of the Herefordshire Water Board; Mr. C. C. Judson of the Malvern U.D.C., and Mr. S. Ballard.

I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health

3rd September, 1965



LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERICAL STAFF

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone No.:-  
Ross-on-Wye 2214

Chepstow House,  
Ross-on-Wye.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

Mr. E.E. Jordan, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. (Resigned 31.7.64)

Mr. D.R. Howe, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Part-time)  
(Commenced duties 1. 7. 64)

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

Mr. H.A. Lett, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A. (resigned 30.4.64)

Mr. M.E. Sutton, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Part-time)  
(Commenced duties 1.9.64)

CLERKS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. L.K. Shakesheff (Senior) (Part-time)

Mrs. P.J. Sterry (Part-time)

Telephone No.:-  
Ledbury 523/4

Council Offices,  
St. Katherine's,  
Ledbury.





SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	49,867
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.64)	=	2,539
Rateable Value	=	£180,542
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£677. 2. 11.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	8,000
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.13
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.92

Vital Statistics for the YearLive Births

Number of live births	=	153
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude)	=	19.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	9.2

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	=	4
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	=	25.5
Total live and still births	=	157

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	=	39.2
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	=	21.6
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	=	214.3
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) per 1,000 live births	=	19.6
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 live births	=	13.1
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 live and still births	=	38.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Maternal deaths	=	Nil
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## Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population was 8,000. This population was accommodated in 2,539 dwellings; the average number of persons per inhabited house was 3.15. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths was 98.

## Births

The total number of live births registered during the year was 153 (74 male and 79 female). The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population was 19.1. The corrected live birth rate for the Rural District is 21.6 per 1,000 estimated population. The live birth rate for the year 1964 for England and Wales is 18.4 per 1,000 population.

The number of illegitimate live births was 14 (6 male and 8 female). Based upon the estimated population, the illegitimate live birth rate was 1.75 per 1,000 estimated population. In the previous year there were 11 illegitimate births.

## Stillbirths

Four stillbirths were registered during the year, two more than in 1963, giving a stillbirth rate of 25.5 per 1,000 total (live and still births). The 1964 still birth rate for England and Wales was 16.4 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

## Deaths

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the Rural District, after deducting the deaths of non-residents occurring within the District, and adding the deaths of residents occurring outside the District, was 98 (59 male and 39 female). The crude death rate was 12.25 per 1,000 estimated population. There were 110 deaths in 1963.

The adjusted death rate was 11.3 per 1,000 estimated population. The death rate for the year for England and Wales was 11.3 per 1,000 population.

The most frequent cause of death was all forms of heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20) accounting for 21 deaths.

## Tuberculosis

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis. The death rate for England and Wales for 1964 from all forms of tuberculosis was 0.053 per 1,000 population.

## Deaths due to Acute Notifiable Disease

Pneumonia, the only acute notifiable disease attributed as cause of death, caused 9 deaths. In 1963, 6 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

## Infant Mortality

Six deaths of infants under the age of one year occurred. In 1963, twelve babies under the age of one year died in the Rural District. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1964 was 20.0 per 1,000 live births.



Cancer Deaths

Cancer of all sites caused 13 deaths (10 male and 3 female), and the corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1964 for all forms of cancer was 1.50 per 1,000 estimated population. In 1963, there were 20 deaths in the Rural District caused by cancer.

The death rate for 1964 for England and Wales for all forms of cancer is 2.21 per 1,000 population.

Table of Deaths from Various Causes according to Sex

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	2	3
11.	" " , lung, bronchus.	3	-	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	6	1	7
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	8	7	15
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	7	8	15
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	-	1	1
20.	Other heart disease.	2	3	5
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	3	4
22.	Influenza.	1	-	1
23.	Pneumonia.	5	4	9
24.	Bronchitis.	7	2	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	2	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-	2
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	2	3
31.	Congenital malformations.	-	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	8	2	10
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
34.	All other accidents.	3	-	3
35.	Suicide.	2	-	2
All Causes		59	39	98

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford, continued to provide facilities for the examination of clinical and public health specimens. The following table shows the examinations carried out on behalf of the Department:-

Faeces	=	1
Milk (methylene blue test)	=	16
Milk (phosphatase test)	=	14
Water (bacteriological)	=	31

In addition, 11 samples of sewage effluent were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination.

One sample of tuberculin tested milk was sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Worcester for biological test.

### Ambulance Facilities

Ambulance facilities are provided from the towns of Ledbury, Malvern and Hereford.

### Hospitals

There are no hospitals within the Rural District, but the needs of the District are met by the general hospitals in Ledbury, Malvern, Hereford and Gloucester.

Accommodation for treatment of infectious disease is provided at Stretton Sugwas Hospital, Hereford, and some notifiable disease is treated at the County Hospital, Hereford.

### Clinics

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held every fortnight in the parish of Colwall by a voluntary Committee, with assistance from the Herefordshire County Council. A similar Clinic is held at the Cottage Hospital, Ledbury on the second and fourth Monday afternoons in each month and is available to inhabitants of the Rural District.

### Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948. Section 50

No burials were carried out by the Council under this section during the year.

### National Assistance Act 1948. Section 47

No investigation was necessary under this section during the year.

### Public Conveniences

Public conveniences are situated at the Wyche, Colwall. These meet a need that exists in that part of the Rural District.

The Council has arranged for privately owned conveniences at the British Camp to be available to the public.

## SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Geology

The western boundary of the Rural District is formed by a ridge of upper silurian limestone in the Woolhope and Much Marcle area, whilst the eastern boundary is formed by the Malvern Hills at Mathon, Colwall and Eastnor. The geological formation of the Malvern Hills is complex, but on the Ledbury side upper silurian rocks seem to predominate. Old Red Sandstone of the Devonian System prevails between the hills in the east and west.

Some springs occur in the Malvern Hills but the area is not well supplied with natural sources of water.



## Water Supplies

The water supplies in the Rural District include wells, springs and piped water schemes.

Except in the parishes of Colwall and Mathon, which lie within the area of the Malvern Water Undertaking, the whole of the District is within the area of supply of the Herefordshire Water Board. The Board has public water mains in the parishes of Eastnor, Ledbury Rural, Wellington Heath and Much Marcle.

No serious shortage of water was experienced in the Rural District during 1964, except in Wellington Heath parish for part of the year.

The Herefordshire Water Board carried out the following extensions to the public water mains in the Rural District:-

Ledbury Rural	-	approx. 300 yards of 3" dia. main
Wellington Heath	-	70 " " " " " "

The number of dwellings supplied from the Board's public water mains at the end of the year were:-

Eastnor	=	54
Ledbury Rural	=	51
Much Marcle	=	35
Wellington Heath	=	103
		<u>243</u>

The Malvern U.D.C. extended the public water main from Evendine to British Camp in Colwall parish.

In Colwall parish, 518 dwellings are supplied from the public water mains, and 144 houses take a supply from Mr. S. Ballard's mains. In Mathon parish, 24 houses are supplied from the public water mains and 24 from Mr. Ballard's mains.

During the year 31 samples of drinking water were sent for bacteriological examination. These were from privately owned supplies and 18 were found not to be of good potable quality.

The public water supplies do not have any significant solvent action upon common metals.

## Drainage and Sewerage

The parish of Colwall is provided with a system of public sewers and modern sewage disposal works, and 532 dwellings were connected to the Colwall sewers at the end of the year.

During 1964, no new public or private sewers were constructed in the Rural District.

No new works for sewage disposal were constructed, or alterations made to works of sewage disposal.

Eleven samples of effluent were taken from the Colwall Sewage Disposal Works and all except two of these complied with the Royal Commission standards. An improvement in the dosing chambers for the biological beds has been approved.

There is a short length of public sewer in Bosbury parish which receives the drainage of 41 dwellings.

The number of drain tests carried out by the Public Health Inspector was 125, and 90 inspections were made in connection with drainage. Sixtyeight new drains were constructed; 60 of these were in connection with dwellings. Seven existing drains were reconstructed or repaired.

### Rivers and Streams

The chief rivers flowing through the District are the Leadon, the Frome and the Cradley Brook. The Leadon, the largest stream in the area is a tributary of the river Severn. The Leadon shows evidence of pollution at times.

### Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that about one third of the dwelling houses in the Rural District are provided with water closets.

In Colwall parish, with an adequate piped water supply, the proportion of dwellings provided with water closets is higher.

Every effort is made to secure closet conversion, and during the year 8 privies and 11 pail closets were converted to water closets. Five privies were converted to pail closets. In addition, 33 new water closets were constructed during the year.

The inadequacy of piped water supplies hinders the elimination of privies, which are too frequently encountered.

### Public Cleansing

The Council provides by direct labour a regular collection of domestic refuse - weekly in Colwall and fortnightly in other parishes. A motor vehicle is used and disposal is by tipping. About 80% of occupied houses receive the benefit of this service.

The Council does not undertake the collection of trade refuse, or the cleansing and emptying of cesspools and privies, other than those on its own property. The Council does not carry out street cleansing.

There are no public washhouses or baths situated within the District.

The refuse disposal tips situated in Castle Frome, Mathon, Much Marcle and Wellington Heath ceased to be used. The refuse is now tipped at the Urban Council's tip at Jubilee Meadows, where the provision of a tractor shovel enables better control to be exercised.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

In am indebted to the Public Health Inspector for the following statement for the year 1964, furnished in accordance with article 25 (20) Public Health Officer Officers Regulations, 1959:-

#### Inspections

Accumulations	=	3
Agriculture (S.H. & W. Prov.) Act.	=	5
Animals	=	2
Ashbins and Ashpits	=	4
Bakehouses	=	1
Camping Sites	=	3
Canteens	=	2
Caravans	=	11
Drainage	=	110
Drain Tests	=	125
Factories (without mechanical power)	=	2
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	8
Food Handling Byelaws	=	4
Food Premises	=	9
Fruit and Hop Pickers' Quarters	=	29
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932)	=	5
Housing (Other)	=	228



Inspections (continued)

Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	3
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	5
Infectious Disease	=	2
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	=	7
Nuisances	=	8
Petroleum Stores	=	10
Diseases of Animals Acts (Anthrax Order 1938)	=	2
Refuse Tips	=	30
Schools	=	2
Sewage Disposal Works	=	95
Sewers	=	29
Shops	=	5
Sanitary Conveniences	=	1
Smoke Observations	=	1
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	1
Unsound Food	=	2
Water Supply	=	61
Water Courses	=	4
Work Places	=	2

Notices Issued

Informal	=	3
Statutory re Housing	=	Nil
Statutory under other Acts	=	Nil

Summary of Defects Remedied

Ashbins provided	=	1
Accumulations removed	=	4
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	2
Ditches cleared	=	4
Domestic baths provided	=	40
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	6
Drains repaired	=	19
Drains reconstructed	=	25
New drains provided	=	50
Defective floors repaired	=	16
Defective roofs repaired	=	14
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	4
Defective brickwork repaired	=	16
Defective Coppers remedied	=	4
Defective windows repaired	=	32
Defective chimneys repaired	=	13
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	14
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	1
Closets repaired or renewed	=	14
New gullies provided	=	24
Inspection chambers repaired	=	23
Old drains sealed	=	25
Oil or Grease Traps installed	=	3
Paving repaired	=	4
Privies converted to water closets	=	10
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	22
Staircases repaired	=	4
New sinks provided	=	43
Soil pipes repaired	=	7
Sanitary fittings provided	=	50
Stoves repaired	=	2
Ventilation improved	=	1
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	7
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	20



### Swimming Baths and Pools

There were three swimming pools open to the public within the District during the year. All are equipped with circulation and filtration apparatus.

Three samples of swimming pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory.

### Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

Six notifications were received during the year of suspected anthrax in animals. The diagnosis was not confirmed in any instance.

### Hop and Fruit Pickers' Quarters

The cultivation of hops is an important part of agriculture of the Rural District.

The use of machinery has caused a great reduction in the number of hop-pickers employed, and the increase in population in September is now quite small. The number of farms in the District still picking by hand is reduced to six.

Lodgings for accommodation of pickers were provided at 22 farms. The standard of accommodation is controlled by the Council's byelaws, and the number of inspections of such accommodation was 29. Conditions were found to be in accordance with the standard of the byelaws.

### Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Rural District.

### Camping Sites. Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Section 3

No licences for camping were granted by the Council under Section 269. Camping within the area is limited and it presents no major health problem. Eastnor Park is used as a camping ground during the summer months by members of bodies exempt under sub-section 6. It is estimated the number of campers at any one time during the year did not exceed 120. Two other sites were used for camping during the year. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

One caravan site was licensed under Section 3 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) 1951

No dwellings within the Rural District were found to be infested with bed bugs. When need for disinfection arises this is carried out by contractors using hydrogen cyanide.

### Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

No inspections under this Act were made during the year owing to shortage of staff.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

No formal action was necessary under this Act during the year. The number of holdings inspected was 4. All were found to comply with the Act.

Factories Act, 1961

Twentyfive premises were registered with the Local Authority as factories; three of these were factories without mechanical power. There were no new registrations during the year.

In addition, there were 27 premises in which Section 7 was enforced by the Local Authority. No registrations were deleted from the Register during the year.

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1964, for the Rural District of Ledbury in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	8	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	27	2	-	-
Total	52	12	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

No defects were found during the year.

Outworkers

There are no outworkers registered with the Council.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

	Premises inspected	Total Infest- ations	Rats		Mice	No. of Properties treated	Statut- ory Notices
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities' Properties	10	22	4	18	-	22	-
Dwelling Houses	65	36	-	33	3	36	-
Agricultural Properties	28	28	2	26	-	500	-
All other (including business) Premises	8	4	-	2	-	4	-
Total	111	90	6	79	3	562	-

The Council employs a Pest Officer and a full time rodent operator jointly with the Hereford Rural District Council, the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District Council and the Bromyard Rural District Council.

The scheme works efficiently and regular treatments are given to a significant number of agricultural properties.

The number of inspections made was 165.

Contracts are held on 68 farms and business premises in the Rural District.

Sewer manholes in Colwall were tested for rats in August, with one doubtful take.

Petroleum Regulations

Two new licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were granted by the Council during the year, and no existing installations were discontinued. The number of petroleum storage installations registered at the end of the year was 61.

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1964 the Council did not complete any new dwellings but had 5 under construction.

Private persons completed 17 dwellings and had 13 under construction at the end of the year.

The number of inhabited houses in the Rural District at the end of the year was 2,539 - an increase of 34 compared with the number in the previous year.



Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

- |  |   |     |
|--|---|-----|
| 1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)   | = | 122 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                | = | 8   |
| 3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to in the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | = | 19  |

There are no houses let in lodgings in the Rural District.

Unfit Houses demolished or closed during the Year

Unfit houses demolished during the year	=	Nil
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Unfit houses closed during the year:-

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| (a) Under sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act 1961 | = | 4 |
| (b) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957   | = | 1 |

Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
1(a) After informal action by Local Authority	= 7	Nil
(b) After formal notice under Public Health Acts	= Nil	Nil
(c) After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	= Nil	Nil
(d) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	= Nil	Nil

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year, 8 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of Section 77 of the Housing Act, 1957. No new cases of overcrowding came to the notice of the Department during the year, and it was not possible to secure abatement in any instance and at the end of the year the number of dwellings overcrowded remained unchanged at 8.

Proceedings under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958Part 2 - Section 30

- |  |   |     |
|--|---|-----|
| (a) The number of grants made by the Local Authority for the provision of new dwellings by the conversion of buildings | = | Nil |
| (b) The number of grants made by the Local Authority for the improvement of dwellings                                  | = | 10  |

Section 43

The number of loans made by the Council during the year for the purpose of assisting persons in house purchase	=	12
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House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Part 2)  
Section 4

This section enables the Local Authority to provide assistance to house owners for the provision of standard amenities by means of a grant. The standard amenities are a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom, a washbasin, hot water supply, a water closet and a food store. Eleven such grants were made by the Council during 1964.

The number of housing inspections made during the year was 111.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Rural District is a specified area and only tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk may be sold retail within the District.

At the end of the year 15 distributors were registered with the Council. There are no plants for pasteurising milk, or factories for processing milk within the area.

One sample of tuberculin tested milk was sent for biological examination and found to be satisfactory. No milk sold in the Rural District was suspected of causing disease in man. Most of the milk consumed in the District is pasteurised milk.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

All licences for the sale of special designation milk are granted by the County Council.

Three samples of tuberculin tested milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory and all were found to comply with the Regulations.

Thirteen samples of pasteurised milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory and all were found to comply with the Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Sections 16 and 17  
Ice Cream

Thirtyone premises were registered with the Local Authority for the storage and sale of ice cream and none were registered for the manufacture of ice cream. No action by the Department was necessary in connection with these premises and four inspections were made during the year.

There are 12 other premises registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Four of these were concerned with the manufacture of meat products, and one with the manufacture of soft drinks and one with jam manufacture.

Eight inspections of these premises were made during the year, and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Water Cress

No action was necessary by the Department during the year in connection with this food. The sale of watercress is small. It grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the area.



Shell Fish

The sale of shellfish within the District is small, and no action was required during the year.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

No contraventions of these Regulations were found in any premises on inspection.

Slaughterhouses

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958. Section 3

There are no licensed slaughterhouses within the Rural District.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

One slaughterman's Licence was granted by the Council during 1964 permitting the slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs.

Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air

There are no food markets held within the Rural District, but the byelaws have secured improvement in the handling and wrapping of food. No contravention of these byelaws was found at any time during the year.

Food Poisoning

One case of bacterial food poisoning was notified in the third quarter of the year. The infecting agent was Salmonella Brandenburg. No further cases were discovered. The source of infection could not be ascertained.

Unsound Food

During the year the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered:-

32 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of Tinned Plums - Blown and damaged tins

The disposal of unsound food is by burial on the refuse tip.

A special investigation was made for suspected tins of corned beef in connection with the Aberdeen Typhoid outbreak but no suspect tins were discovered.

SECTION F - PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The number of notifications of acute infectious disease received during the year was 115, compared with 167 in the previous year. Most of these concerned measles which was endemic throughout the year in the Rural District.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter for 1964

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Measles	19	26	39	24	108
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	4	-	2	-	6
All Diseases	23	26	42	24	115

The Rural District was free from diphtheria, scarlet fever, poliomyelitis and enteric fevers throughout the year.

Measles

This disease was the most prevalent acute infection during the year, for 108 notifications were received, 41 less than in 1963. The Rural District was never quite free from the disease which was somewhat less prevalent in the first quarter than in the remainder of the year. Seventyone households were involved and 48 each experienced one case and 23 experienced two or more cases. A clear history of contact was obtained in 31 instances. There were 60 female patients compared with 48 males. There was some localisation of the disease as five parishes gave rise to 84 cases; these were Bosbury (29), Mathon (17), Colwall (15), Castle Frome (13) and Woolhope (10). Although Colwall has the largest population Bosbury accounted for more cases. Most patients were children under 10 years of age.

Whooping Cough

The incidence of whooping cough was very low - only six notifications were received. There was no connection between any of the cases. All of the patients were children under 10 years of age.

Pneumonia

No notifications of pneumonia were received but nine deaths were attributed to this cause. In the previous year six deaths were caused by pneumonia.

Analysis of notified cases according to Age Groups - 1964

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	65+	All Ages
Measles	1	9	9	9	7	60	7	3	-	2	1	-	108
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
All Diseases	1	10	10	9	7	64	7	3	-	2	1	-	115

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 52 cases (48 respiratory and 4 non-respiratory) on the tuberculosis register. During the year two cases of respiratory disease and two cases of non-respiratory disease were added, all being new infections.

One case of respiratory disease was taken off the Register during the year.

At the end of 1964 there were 49 cases of respiratory disease (28 male and 21 female), and 6 of non-respiratory disease (3 male and 3 female) remaining on the register.

One death in the Rural District was attributed to the disease during the year.

The 1964 death rate for England and Wales from all forms of tuberculosis was 0.053 per 1,000 population.

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